Reflective essay

The AAE freshman seminar group project has been a really great opportunity for me to experience in collaborating with new classmates, as well as learning programming algorithms which are related to the aviation industry. There are a few feedbacks on the group project learning which mainly focus on coding and communicating with groupmates through the internet.

First, python is a totally new programming language to me, which is obviously a challenge for students who are not familiarized with coding. Although the task only required us to conduct amendments to the open source codes of the A\* path planning algorithm, there were still some difficulties for the task. For example, task 1 required us to change the map design according to each group’s sample. Our group was assigned to redesign the map with two inclined line in different slope. Our groupmates had no idea in how to adjust the slope correctly, until the tutor provide some tips. I think this is probably the most challenging part for me.

On the other hand, this is also the first time for me to use the online software ‘Github’, which is a very useful software to upload the codes onto the internet and share with my groupmates. Gitbash is a kind of command prompt which enables the user to connect the local files to the cloud server, which is a convenient tool for uploading our works to the group repository. Although the commands are difficult to remember at first, the uploading process and extracting files from the cloud server become very easy and convenient after familiarizing the correct usage of those commands.

Additionally, VS Code is a interesting coding platform which enable us to run our programs and algorithms with this software. The software recommends numbers of programming languages, and coding-related patches which provide more choices for programmers to operate with. Moreover, a visible image or animation could be generated for displaying the algorithm progress, showing your program calculation clearly, so that programmers could make amendments accordingly.

In conclusion, this freshman seminar project conduct benefits to students as to introduce the importance of coding and programming to the aviation industry, as well as to familiarize the usage of different programming related software and common programming language utilized in the industry nowadays.